In the Claims:

All of the currently pending claims are listed below including any amendments proposed

herein. Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (previously presented) In a system for matching carrier capacities with shipper

loads via a wide area network, a method for enabling a carrier to generate a bid for a shipper

load, comprising:

selecting a plurality of units of capacity, each unit of capacity corresponding to specific

carrier equipment having an associated equipment identifier;

assigning a group identifier to the plurality of units of capacity thereby relating the

associated equipment identifiers; and

generating a bid for the shipper load using the group identifier.

2.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the equipment identifiers

are defined by a carrier representative.

3.   (original) The method of claim 2 wherein the equipment identifiers correspond to

at least one of trucking capacity, aircraft capacity, shipping capacity, and rail capacity.

4.   (original) The method of claim 1 wherein generating a bid comprises generating

a plurality of bid entries, each of the bid entries corresponding to one of the units of capacity.

5.   (previously presented) A computer program product comprising a computer

readable medium having computer program instructions embedded therein for performing a

method for enabling a carrier to generate a bid for a shipper load in a system for matching carrier

capacities with shipper loads via a wide area network, the method comprising:

selecting a plurality of units of capacity, each unit of capacity corresponding to specific

carrier equipment having an associated equipment identifier;

assigning a group identifier to the plurality of units of capacity thereby relating the

associated equipment identifiers; and

generating a bid for the shipper load using the group identifier.

6.   (previously presented) In a system for matching carrier capacities with shipper

loads via a wide area network, a method for bidding on a plurality of shipper loads, comprising

enabling a carrier to generate a plurality of bids corresponding to the plurality of shipper loads at

the same time, each of the plurality of bids corresponding to a same unit of capacity which

corresponds to specific carrier equipment having an associated equipment identifier.

7.   (previously presented) The method of claim 6 wherein the equipment identifier is

defined by a carrier representative.

8.   (original) The method of claim 7 wherein the equipment identifier corresponds to

at least one of trucking capacity, aircraft capacity, shipping capacity, and rail capacity.

9.   (original) The method of claim 6 further comprising, in response to acceptance

by a shipper representative of one of the plurality of bids, making all others of the plurality of

bids unavailable.

10.   (original) The method of claim 6 wherein the same unit of capacity comprises a

group comprising a plurality of units of capacity.

11.   (previously presented) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having computer program instructions embedded therein for performing a method for bidding on a plurality of shipper loads in a system for matching carrier capacities with shipper loads via a wide area network, the method comprising enabling a carrier to generate a plurality of bids corresponding to the plurality of shipper loads at the same time, each of the plurality of bids corresponding to a same unit of capacity which corresponds to specific carrier equipment having an associated equipment identifier.

12.   (previously presented) In a system for matching carrier capacities with shipper loads via a wide area network, a method for bidding on a plurality of shipper loads, comprising:

generating a plurality of bids corresponding to the plurality of shipper loads, each of the plurality of bids corresponding to a same unit of capacity which corresponds to specific carrier equipment associated with a single carrier; and

where one of the plurality of bids is accepted, making all others of the plurality of bids unavailable.

13.   (previously presented) The method of claim 12 wherein the equipment identifier is defined by a carrier representative.

14.   (original) The method of claim 13 wherein the equipment identifier corresponds to one of trucking capacity, aircraft capacity, shipping capacity, and rail capacity.

15.   (original) The method of claim 12 wherein the same unit of capacity comprises a group comprising a plurality of units of capacity.

16.   (previously presented) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having computer program instructions embedded therein for performing a method for bidding on a plurality of shipper loads in a system for matching carrier capacities with shipper loads via a wide area network, the method comprising:

generating a plurality of bids corresponding to the plurality of shipper loads, each of the plurality of bids corresponding to a same unit of capacity which corresponds to specific carrier equipment associated with a single carrier; and

where one of the plurality of bids is accepted, making all others of the plurality of bids unavailable.

17.   (previously presented) In a system for matching carrier capacities with shipper loads via a wide area network, a method for enabling a carrier to generate a bid for a shipper load, comprising:

generating the bid for the shipper load designating a currently unavailable unit of capacity which corresponds to specific carrier equipment having an associated equipment identifier, the bid being identified as a future bid; and

when the currently unavailable unit of capacity becomes available, updating the bid to a current bid.

18.   (previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the equipment identifier is defined by a carrier representative.

19.   (original) The method of claim 18 wherein the equipment identifier corresponds to one of trucking capacity, aircraft capacity, shipping capacity, and rail capacity.

20.   (original) The method of claim 17 wherein the currently unavailable unit of

capacity comprises a group comprising a plurality of units of capacity.

21.   (original) The method of claim 17 further comprising:

generating additional bids for other shipper loads designating the currently unavailable

unit of capacity, the additional bids being identified as additional future bids; and

when the currently unavailable unit of capacity becomes available, updating the

additional bids to a additional current bids.

22.   (previously presented) A computer program product comprising a computer

readable medium having computer program instructions embedded therein for performing a

method for enabling a carrier to generate a bid for a shipper load in a system for matching carrier

capacities with shipper loads via a wide area network, the method comprising:

generating the bid for the shipper load designating a currently unavailable unit of

capacity which corresponds to specific carrier equipment having an associated equipment

identifier, the bid being identified as a future bid; and

when the currently unavailable unit of capacity becomes available, updating the bid to a

current bid.

Claims 23-39. (canceled)

40.   (previously presented) In a system for matching carrier capacities with shipper

loads via a wide area network, a method for presenting information regarding a bid entered

against a particular shipper load, the bid corresponding to a particular carrier capacity, the

method comprising communicating a number of shipper loads against which the particular

carrier capacity which corresponds to specific carrier equipment is currently bid.

41.   (previously presented) The method of claim 40 wherein the equipment identifier is defined by the carrier representative.

42.   (original) The method of claim 41 wherein the equipment identifier corresponds to one of trucking capacity, aircraft capacity, shipping capacity, and rail capacity.

43.   (original) The method of claim 40 wherein the particular unit of capacity comprises a group comprising a plurality of units of capacity.

44.   (original) The method of claim 40 wherein the information includes a hyperlink, the method further comprising presenting a bid history relating to the particular shipper load in response to selection of the hyperlink.

45.   (previously presented) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having computer program instructions embedded therein for performing a method for presenting information regarding a bid entered against a particular shipper load in a system for matching carrier capacities with shipper loads via a wide area network, the bid corresponding to a particular carrier capacity, the method comprising communicating a number of shipper loads against which the particular carrier capacity which corresponds to specific carrier equipment is currently bid.

Claims 46-86. (canceled)

Please add the following claims:

87.   (New) In a system for matching carrier capacities with shipper loads via a wide area network, a computer-implemented method for enabling a carrier representative to manage units of carrier capacity associated with a carrier, each unit of capacity corresponding to specific carrier equipment having an associated equipment identifier, the method comprising:

presenting first carrier interfaces operable to enable the carrier representative to post selected ones of the units of capacity for viewing by shipper representatives, the first carrier interfaces being operable to receive a plurality of capacity parameters for each selected unit of capacity and facilitate generation of a listing for each selected unit of capacity;

presenting second carrier interfaces operable to enable the carrier representative to identify shipper loads, the second carrier interfaces being operable to initiate a search process according to at least one criterion specified by the carrier representative;

presenting third carrier interfaces operable to enable the carrier representative to select first ones of the units of capacity, assign a group identifier to the first units of capacity thereby relating the associated equipment identifiers, and generate a first bid for a first shipper load using the group identifier;

presenting fourth carrier interfaces operable to enable the carrier representative to generate a plurality of second bids corresponding to a plurality of second shipper loads, each of the second bids corresponding to a second one of the units of capacity, such that where one of the second bids is accepted, all others of the second bids become unavailable; and

presenting fifth carrier interfaces operable to enable the carrier representative to generate a third bid for a third shipper load designating a currently unavailable one of the units of capacity, the third bid being identified as a future bid, such that when the currently unavailable unit of capacity becomes available, the third bid is updated to a current bid.

88.   (New) The method of claim 87 wherein the first carrier interfaces are further operable to facilitate limiting visibility of the units carrier capacities according to shipper identification information input by the carrier representative.

89.   (New) The method of claim 87 wherein the fourth carrier interfaces further include information regarding a number of the second shipper loads against which the second unit of capacity is currently bid.

90.   (New) The method of claim 87 wherein the second carrier interfaces are operable to enable the carrier representative to specify a period of time during which the search process operates without user intervention.

91.   (New) The method of claim 90 further comprising presenting a notification to the carrier representative when the search process identifies one of the shipper loads.

92.   (New) The method of claim 91 wherein the notification comprises any of an e-mail, a pager signal, and a message to be displayed using an interface of the system.

93.   (New) The method of claim 92 wherein the e-mail includes a hyperlink corresponding to the identified shipper load.

94.   (New) The method of claim 87 wherein the second carrier interfaces are operable to enable the carrier representative to manually activate the search process.

95.   (New) The method of claim 87 wherein the second carrier interfaces are operable to enable the carrier representative to manually terminate the search process

96.   (New) The method of claim 87 wherein the second carrier interfaces are further operable to enable the carrier representative to specify bidding rules according to which automatic bid for the shipper loads identified by the search process may be generated.

97.   (New) The method of claim 87 wherein the equipment identifiers correspond to any of trucking capacity, aircraft capacity, shipping capacity, and rail capacity.

98.   (New) The method of claim 87 further comprising presenting sixth interfaces operable to enable the carrier representative to generate additional bids for other shipper loads designating the currently unavailable unit of capacity, each of the additional bids being identified as additional future bids, such that when the currently unavailable unit of capacity becomes available, the additional future bids are updated to a additional current bids.

99.   (New) The method of claim 87 wherein the at least one criterion comprises any of a pickup location, a delivery location, a pickup date, a delivery date, an equipment type, and a freight service.

100.   (New) The method of claim 87 further comprising presenting a notification to the carrier representative upon occurrence of a system event, the notification comprising any of an e-mail, a pager signal, and a message to be displayed using an interface of the system.

101.   (New) The method of claim 87 further comprising presenting sixth carrier interfaces including bid histories corresponding to any of the plurality of bids in the system associated with the carrier.

102.   (New) A computer program product comprising at least one computer readable

medium having computer program instructions embedded therein which are operable to cause at

least one computing device to perform the method of claim 87.

103.   (New) A system for matching carrier capacities with shipper loads, comprising at

least one computing device deployed in a network for enabling a carrier representative to manage

units of carrier capacity associated with a carrier, each unit of capacity corresponding to specific

carrier equipment having an associated equipment identifier, the at least one computing device

being configured to:

        present first carrier interfaces operable to enable the carrier representative to post selected

ones of the units of capacity for viewing by shipper representatives, the first carrier interfaces

being operable to receive a plurality of capacity parameters for each selected unit of capacity and

facilitate generation of a listing for each selected unit of capacity;

        present second carrier interfaces operable to enable the carrier representative to identify

shipper loads, the second carrier interfaces being operable to initiate a search process according

to at least one criterion specified by the carrier representative;

        present third carrier interfaces operable to enable the carrier representative to select first

ones of the units of capacity, assign a group identifier to the first units of capacity thereby

relating the associated equipment identifiers, and generate a first bid for a first shipper load using

the group identifier;

        present fourth carrier interfaces operable to enable the carrier representative to generate a

plurality of second bids corresponding to a plurality of second shipper loads, each of the second

bids corresponding to a second one of the units of capacity, such that where one of the second

bids is accepted, all others of the second bids become unavailable; and

        present fifth carrier interfaces operable to enable the carrier representative to generate a

third bid for a third shipper load designating a currently unavailable one of the units of capacity,

the third bid being identified as a future bid, such that when the currently unavailable unit of

capacity becomes available, the third bid is updated to a current bid.